

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FROM AF/W

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NI

SUBJECT:FOLLOW-UP TO ECONOMIC BILATERALS: CONCESSIONAL
ASSISTANCE

1. THIS MESSAGE FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION ONLY. CONTENTS SHOULD NOT BE DIVULGED TO FMG OFFICIALS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.
 2. AID/W (AFR/CAWA) HAS INCLUDED A REQUEST FOR \$10 MILLION FOR NIGERIA IN ITS FY'80 BUDGET SUBMISSION. THE SUBMISSION MUST PASS A REVIEW BY AID/PPC WHICH, WE EXPECT, WILL TAKE PLACE ON/ABOUT AUGUST 16. THERE IT WILL MEET SOME STRONG OPPOSITION. IF APPROVED THE BUDGET REQUEST WILL THEN MOVE FORWARD TO AID ADMINISTRATOR FOR HIS CONSIDERATION AND FORWARDING TO OMB AND WHITE
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HOUSE. IF PPC APPROVES NIGERIAN BUDGET REQUEST, AID WILL BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS ON ISSUES OF RESUMPTION OF CONGRESSIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THIS OPEC NATION, LEVELS, TERMS, ETC.

3. PRELIMINARY AID THINKING IS THAT THIS MODEST LEVEL OF CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE UTILIZED IN THE

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR VIA THE MECHANISM OF TITLE XII

OF THE FAA. TITLE XII HAS SUBSTANTIAL POLITICAL CONSTITUENCY IN CONGRESS. AID BELIEVES THIS MECHANISM IS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO ALLOW NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT TO UTILIZE MONIES FOR SALARIES, RESEARCH, PLANNING, PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, ETC. IN A COST-SHARING FRAMEWORK BASED UPON THE NIGERIAN REQUEST AT THE RECENT BILATERAL TALKS. NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS TO THE FORM SUCH CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE MAY TAKE I.E. BLOCK GRANT OR SOME OTHER MECHANISM OR THE TERMS, I.E. GRANT OR LOAN ASSISTANCE.

4. PARALLEL TO THIS PROCESS NIGERIA IS BEING STUDIED BY THE NEWLY REJUVENATED DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (DCC), AN INTER AGENCY GROUP CONSISTING OF AID, STATE, COMMERCE, TREASURY, AND AGRICULTURE. THE DCC IS PREPARING A GENERAL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND DEVELOPMENTAL STUDY ON NIGERIA. THE STUDY WILL BE READY IN TIME FOR A FULL MEETING OF THE DCC (ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL) IN LATE AUGUST. ASSUMING THAT A CENSUS DEVELOPS AT THAT MEETING THAT NIGERIA SHOULD RECEIVE CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE, A REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE AID ADMINISTRATOR TO COMPLEMENT THE PRODUCT THAT EMERGES FROM PPC. ACCORDING TO AID, WE CAN EXPECT A WAIT OF ABOUT FOUR MONTHS BEFORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEARNING MORE THAN WE WILL KNOW BY THE END OF AUGUST. WE WILL KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

VANCE

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